

Beaudee and Cole Bisel participated in a "Lamb Lead" class held on a Saturday during the fair. Next year awards will be given away in the

junior and senior divisions. The event was sponsored by Wasatch County and the Woolgrowers Association. *Roxy 1987*



10-12-87

## Sheep breeders honor four men

SPANISH FORK — For 31 years the Utah Ram Sale has had the reputation as the largest statewide ram sale in the west.

On Wednesday, as sheep breeders gathered for the annual sale, sponsors honored four men who pioneered the annual sale of prize rams, Alden Olsen, Snell Olsen, Mark Bradford and Farrell Wankier Sr.

Three of the men, the Olsens and Bradford, were instrumental in organizing the first sale in 1955, and have been participants in the sale ever since.

"There are more purebred rams in a 25-mile radius around Spanish Fork than anywhere else in the world," Alden Olsen reported.

Dr. Clair Acord, manager of the Utah Wool Growers Association, has said all of the registered sheep lines in the U.S. trace their lineage back

to sheep raised in Utah County.

"It is the purebred sheep capital of the world," he said.

Olsen agrees that south Utah

Dean Parker, Logan, was the auctioneer.

Olsen said the sale will involve anywhere from 300 to 1,300 rams each year. This year's sale listed 628 head,

**"There are more purebred rams in a 25-mile radius around Spanish Fork than anywhere else in the world."**

— Alden Olsen

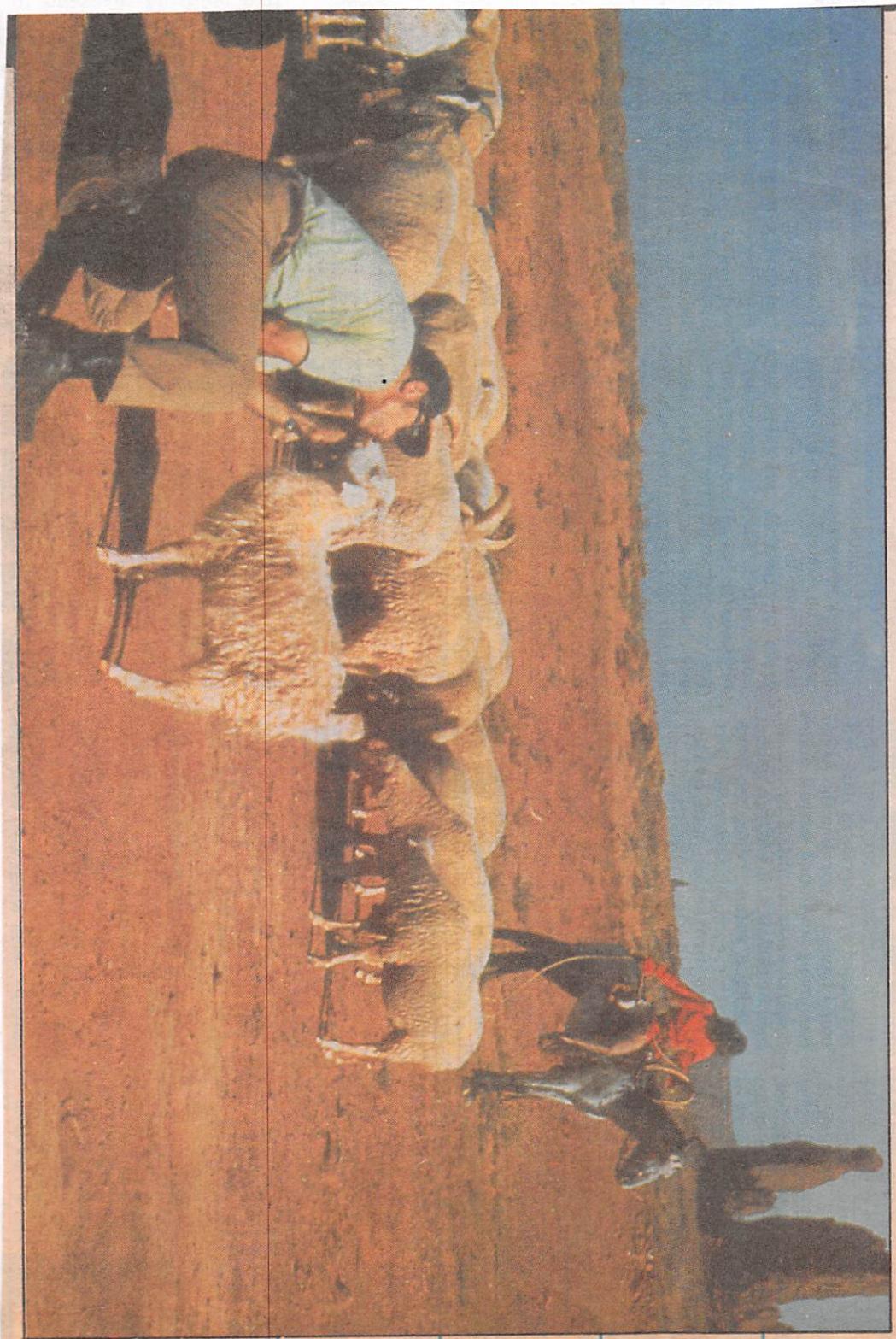
County has always been the center for purebred sheep, saying, "We have a helluva reputation."

Wednesday's sale at the Spanish Fork Livestock Show grounds was sponsored by the Wool Growers Association and the Utah registered Sheep Breeders Association. Jim Caras was sales manager and Col.

entered by some 40 consignors from all parts of Utah as well as Wyoming and Colorado.

Several breeds were represented, including Rambouilletts, Columbia-Rambouilletts, Columbias, Polpay, Suffolks and Suffolk-Hamps.

A banquet for consignors was held Wednesday night at the fairgrounds tennis courts.



Oct  
1987

BERTHA REYNOLDS, 74, OF MOAB, RIGHT, WAS ONE OF THE WINNERS, FOR HER PHOTO, "TOGETHERNESS," BELOW. (THAT'S HER HUSBAND, DICK, NOSE TO NOSE WITH A GOAT. "I'M THE OLD GOAT," HE SAYS.)



# Selling baby lambs to Japan

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Calling herself "a little garden-variety farm girl who believes in my product," Anne Rominger is trying to increase exports to Japan in a small way.

Her specialty is baby lamb meat, considered a delicacy by French chefs and soon to be considered a delicacy in Japan if her efforts succeed.

Ms. Rominger, 46, recently was awarded \$20,000 in grants from California's new Export Trade Assistance program to try to develop a market for her baby lambs in Japan.

Representatives of large companies often express frustration at the complexities of trying to wend their way through the Japanese system, but Ms. Rominger is negotiating with potential Japanese customers directly.

"I just don't know any better," she said in an interview. "I don't have enough sense to know it can't be done."

Actually, she learned that it can be done from Roger Bacigaluppi, head of the California Almond Growers Exchange. Rominger also has an almond orchard and heard Bacigaluppi describe how a market for Blue Diamond almonds was developed in Japan.

"The Japanese look for a quality product, and they don't mind paying for it," she said. "Their per-capita income is greater than ours, and they eat small portions."

All of that fits perfectly with her baby lambs, which are sent to market at the tender age of five months.

"The lamb has to be by its mother's side and has to be fed only native grasses, no artificial feeds — even alfalfa," Rominger explained. "I don't use medication, and they can't be confined, so they develop nice and tender."

Since she started the business 15 years ago, Rominger has sold most of her little lambs to French restaurants, mainly on the West Coast.



Anne Rominger struggles with a ewe on her ranch near Esparto in Northern California. She is working to export baby lambs to Japan.

"Just the elite restaurants because this is just the very best lamb," she said. "I don't pretend to know the difference that well, but French chefs certainly do."

Her domestic business has grown big enough that she can't supply all her customers with the 1,000-sheep herd she has on a ranch near Woodland, 50 miles northeast of San Francisco. Consequently, she buys baby lambs "that meet my requirements" from Basque sheepherders in the San Joaquin Valley, Idaho and Utah.

Rominger's own lambs are

commercial white-faced ewes crossed with either Suffolk or Hampshire rams.

Her background is not typical of a one-woman farming entrepreneur. She was born in San Francisco, was sent to finishing school in Switzerland and was a French major at University of California, Berkeley.

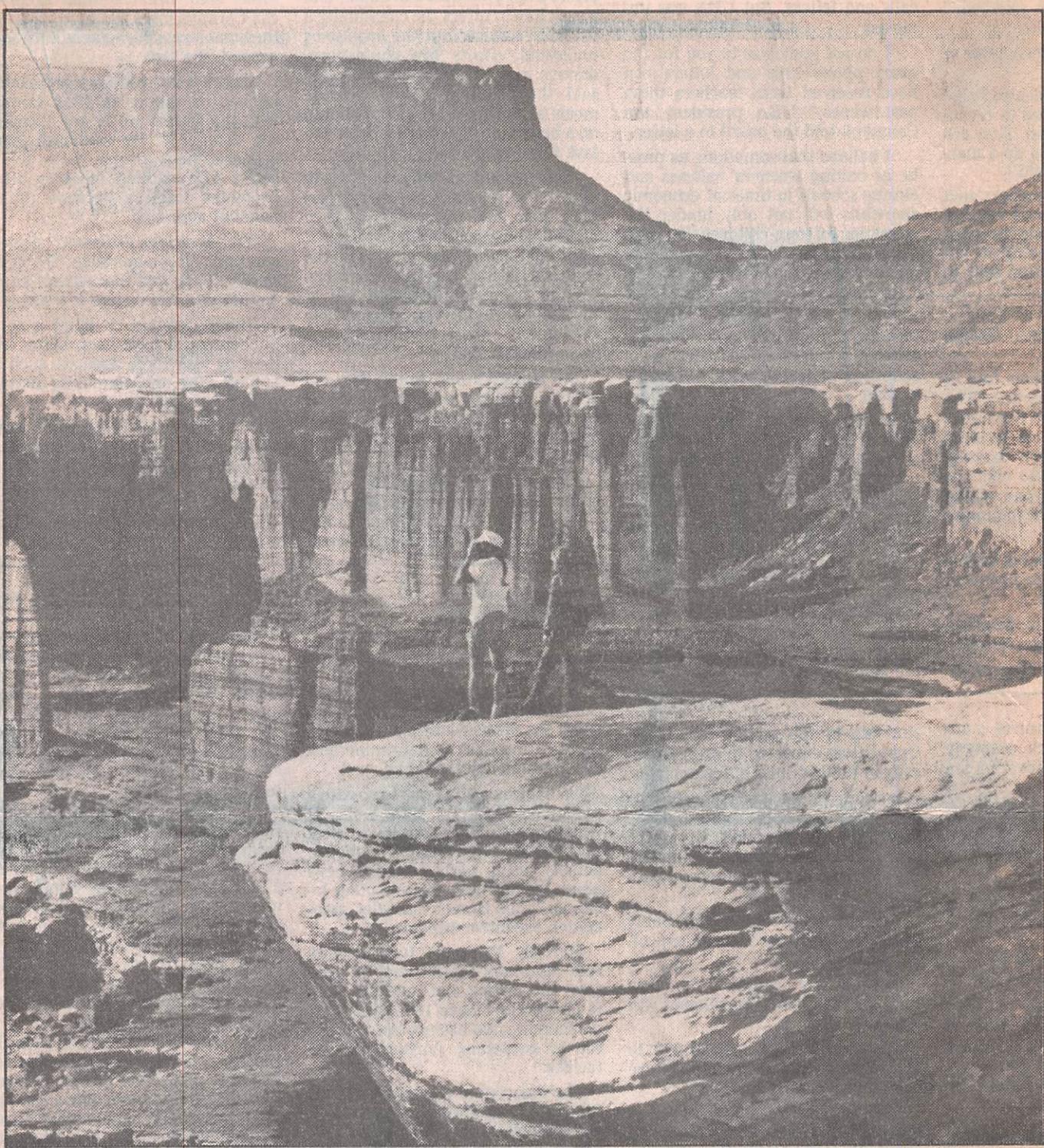
But she took to farming and loves it because "I do not fit well in a sophisticated environment."

At 5-foot-1, she feels "a tremendous feeling of accomplishment" at being able to move a bale of hay. And she

says her hands are small enough to slip into a ewe's birth canal and assist during labor.

Rominger, a cousin by marriage of former California Food and Agriculture Director Rich Rominger, has been negotiating with several Japanese companies for her California Baby Lambs and already has a few orders. She figures it will take at least three years before she will know whether the effort is a success.

"Maybe everything will blow up, but I have to try," she said.



Tim Graham and volunteer Christine Beekman scan the canyon country near Moab for bighorn sheep.

# Annual tally helps Park Service count on survival of bighorn sheep

By Robert Rice  
Deseret News staff writer

24 Nov 1987

Counting sheep for some is a cure for insomnia.

But for the National Park Service, which recently completed its annual tally of the state's largest desert bighorn sheep herd, it's a way to ensure the preservation of a rare and elusive animal.

"The desert bighorn sheep populations in Utah were reduced quite a bit in the past 50 to 70 years as a result of different human activity," said Tim Graham, biologist at Canyonlands Nation-

al Park near Moab.

"Now, the Park Service is interested in getting sheep back into areas where they historically existed," he said.

To do that, the Park Service began an annual-count of the rare animals in 1977. This year's survey was recently completed by 38 volunteers, mostly Park Service employees, including Canyonlands National Park Superintendent Harvey Wickware.

The rugged country near the confluence of the Green and Colorado rivers along the White Rim Trail only miles southwest of Moab is home for the largest bighorn sheep herd in the state.

Graham said.

Among the canyons and buttes of this area the volunteers searched for bighorn on foot while other observers flew overhead in a helicopter, keeping an eye peeled for the rarely seen mammals.

The volunteers recorded the number, size, sex and location of the scores of bighorn they spied, enabling Graham to reliably estimate the number of sheep living in the area. The figures weigh heavily in the park's management plan for the region.

Although Graham admitted "there's a  
Please see SHEEP on B2

# SHEEP

Continued from B1

lot of room for error," in the yearly count, combining ground and air observers to search for bighorn increased the level of accuracy in the count.

Those on the ground spotted 45 bighorn while the airborne searchers saw 72 from their helicopter.

Graham took those figures and plugged them into a formula de-

signed to estimate sheep populations for a larger area.

The biologist estimated that 110 to 130 bighorn sheep roam the remote area near the Colorado River as it flows past the boundary of Canyonlands National Park.

"This year's population is down for the second year in a row," Graham said.

In years past when bighorn counts were higher, the Park Service's management plan called for the capture of some bighorn from the Moab area. The bighorn were then transplanted to other Park Service and Bureau of

Land Management areas, Graham said.

Other bighorn meet their fate in the gunsights of lucky hunters. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources awards only a handful of resident and non-resident bighorn hunting permits. The division also auctions off a single permit to anyone willing to pay the hefty \$20,000 minimum fee.

For hunters, bagging a big ram is like "landing the granddaddy trout in the pool," Graham said.

But bighorn capture the imagination of the non-hunter also, he said.

"Even for people who have no in-

terest in hunting or no expressed interest in trophies, there is always the sensation of seeing a big, old ram," he said.

Actually sighting a bighorn is not only an exciting experience, it's also a true accomplishment, Graham said.

"Bighorn sheep are generally pretty shy. If you've seen one, you've probably gotten into a relatively remote area to do so," he said.

"The bighorn sheep is one that appeals to the public," he added, saying that because of the species' popularity, the Park Service sees a need to ensure the population's growth in the Moab area.

# Idaho sheepmen want guarantees before reintroduction of wolves

Dec 1987

LOGAN (UPI) — Idaho sheepmen won't agree to a wolf reintroduction plan for the Yellowstone ecosystem without guarantees, the president of the Idaho Woolgrowers says.

"It is not because we are afraid of the actual losses to the wolves," Jeff Sidoway said. "It is how is it going to restrict our other predator control activities. It is how it is going to restrict our other utilizations of the land."

Rep. Wayne Owens, D-Utah, has sponsored legislation in the House to reintroduce the species to the Yellowstone ecosystem encompassing parts of eastern Idaho, southern Montana and western Wyoming. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Director Frank Dunkle earlier said the National Park Service wants to reintroduce wolves into the area to solve problems created by failure to control the park's elk and bison herds.

Norm Bishop, Yellowstone Na-

tional Park research interpreter, said three areas in Montana and Idaho are being considered for wolf reintroduction.

Plan.

"An environmental impact statement would be carried out with problems addressed before an action plan is developed in the Great Yellowstone Area, including northern Montana and Idaho," he said.

One zone would be more than

3,000-square miles with all the habitat to sustain 10 breeding pairs of wolves, Bishop said. All native species would be perpetuated, and the

wolves would be given top priority where allowed.

Livestock and other uses would get preference in a buffer zone, he said, and problem wolves would be controlled in those areas.

In a third zone, other uses would take priority over wolf recovery, Bishop told a symposium at Utah State University, sponsored by the Wasatch Front Society of American Foresters and USU College of Natural Resources.

"Based on Canadian studies, at about 11 pounds of prey per day in the Yellowstone recovery area, 200 wolves — about twice the recovery goal — would use less than 5 percent of the available summer biomass in the park and less than 10 percent of the winter biomass," Bishop said.

The biomass includes elk, deer, buffalo, moose, antelope, snowshoe hare and other prey.







**January 26, 1987**

**There is no quarrel  
plight of the sheep  
quarrel is with the  
methods they have used to  
seemingly solve their prob-  
lems. Whenever we suspect  
part of a group as being guilty  
of a crime, should we con-  
demn the entire group and an-  
nihilate them? When we put  
ourselves above the law and  
beyond human morality, what  
do we become?**

**Janet Smith  
Daniels**



## Plans

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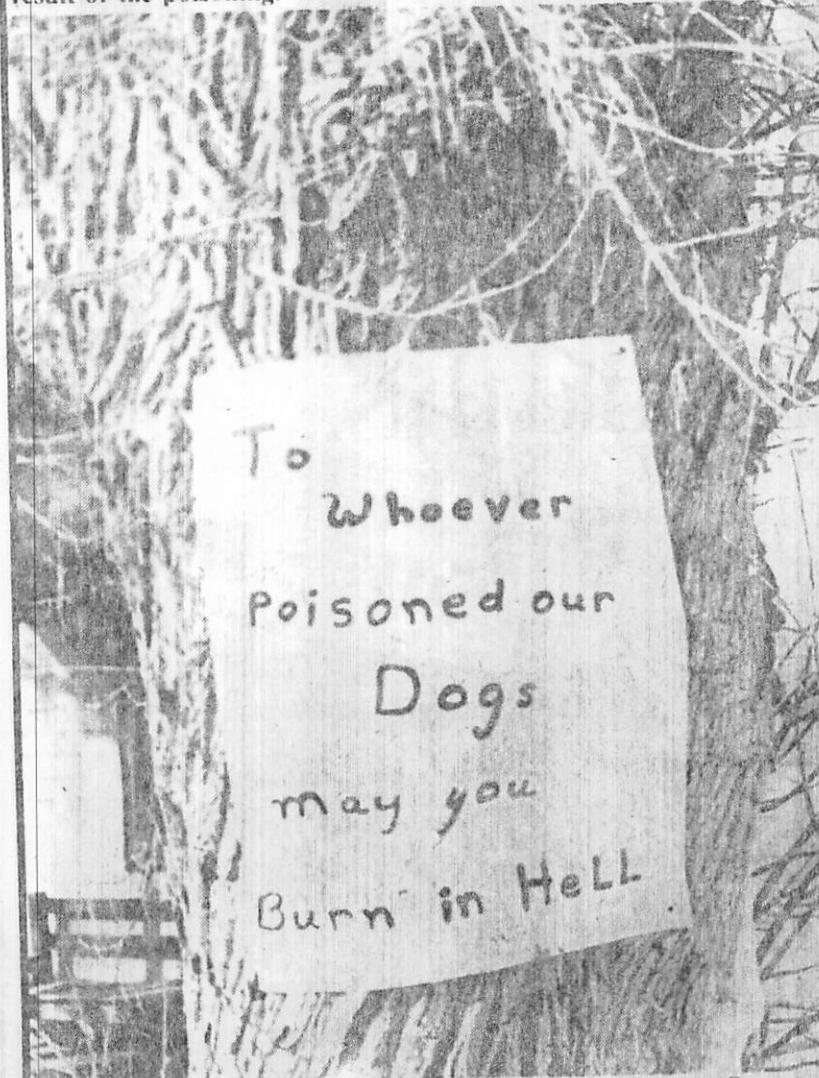
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## Meeting County

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Chris and Eloise Briscoe stand at the end of their driveway where poisoned meat had been scattered late Friday night and early Saturday morning. "If you walk along this road you won't hear any dogs barking," said Mr. Briscoe. So far 12 dogs and two cats have died as a result of the poisoning.



Signs such as these have proliferated in the Daniel's area. Some ex- pect disgust and others are offering rewards for information leading to the arrest of the persons responsible for the poisonings.

## Canine Carnage Shocks Daniels

Chris Briscoe began his morning like all the others. He awoke early and at a few minutes before 6 a.m., as part of his morning ritual, he let his dog, Oliver, outside. The dog sauntered to the end of the driveway and a couple of minutes later ran back inside the house. Mr. Briscoe then left for work. An hour later his wife, Eloise, noticed Oliver starting to vomit, followed by convulsions. She rushed the dog to the veterinarian but the treatment failed. A short time later, the Briscoe's dog died.

Residents in the Daniel's area are angry, angry over a spree of poisonings that occurred last Friday night and early Saturday morning. As of Tuesday, 12 dogs and two cats have died. No arrests have been made, and the tests to identify the poison have not been completed.

A team of three deputies is investigating the incident and the Sheriff's Department has issued a warning to all Daniel's Canyon residents to use caution when outside, and to advise their children not to pick up anything that might be suspected as bait, especially any meat products.

The people who have had their dogs poisoned are expressing a mixture of anger, sorrow, confusion and disgust. "Our dogs are like our children," said Chris Briscoe. "For us to lose two dogs is like another couple losing their children — or their best friend."

Larry Ward, a resident in the Daniel's area, discovered his dog, Sugar, dead early Saturday morning. At midnight Mr. Ward put his dog on a chain in the front yard and when he returned at 4:30 a.m., he discovered her dead. "She was the most lovely and beautiful dog. Everyone loved her because she was so gentle. My wife teaches preschool and the kids just loved her," said Mr. Ward.

"My kids just cried," said Candy Mifflin who lost two dogs to poisoning. When she was preparing to leave for work she discovered one of her dogs, Daisy, underneath the car and the other, Columbus, in the garage, "hanging down in the stairs to our loft. It was grotesque. He had twisted himself through the stair openings, and there was vomit all around the garage."

After overcoming the initial shock, residents notified their neighbors, but in a few instances it was too late. Nancy Hilton received a call from a neighbor who warned her to lock up her dog, Blacky. "We locked her up most of the weekend and then at 4 p.m. on Sunday we let her out for an hour and at 6 p.m. I went into the garage and she was in

Continued on Page 2A



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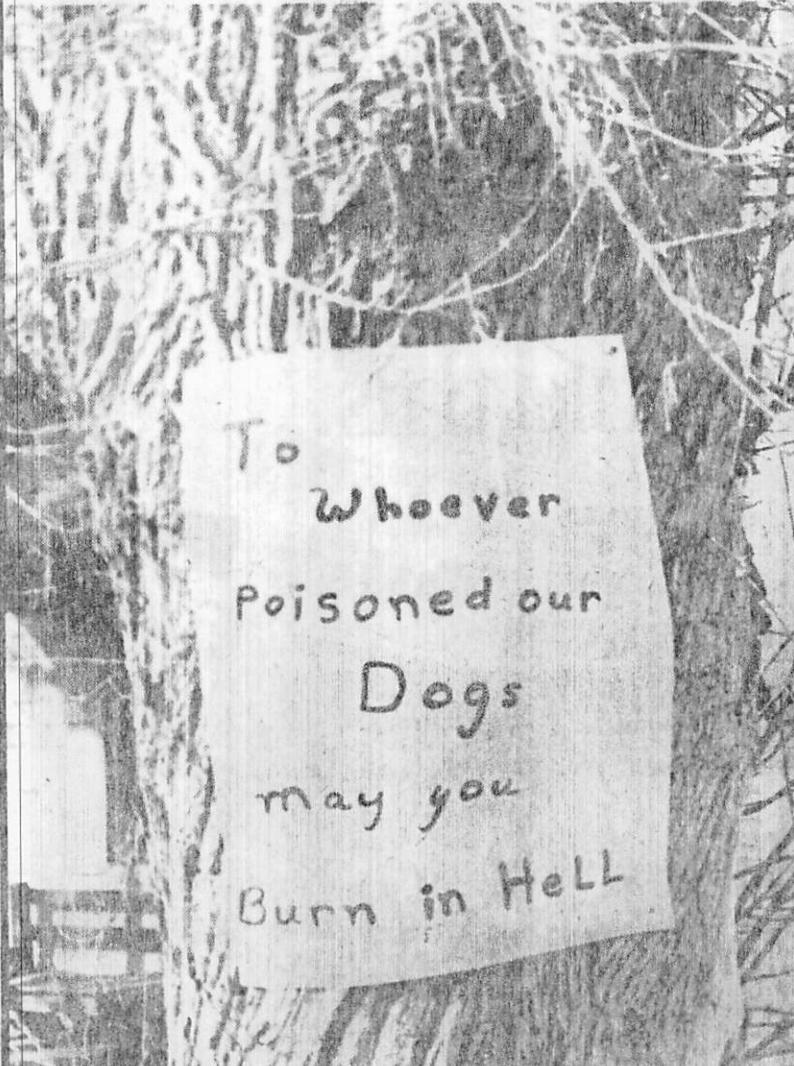
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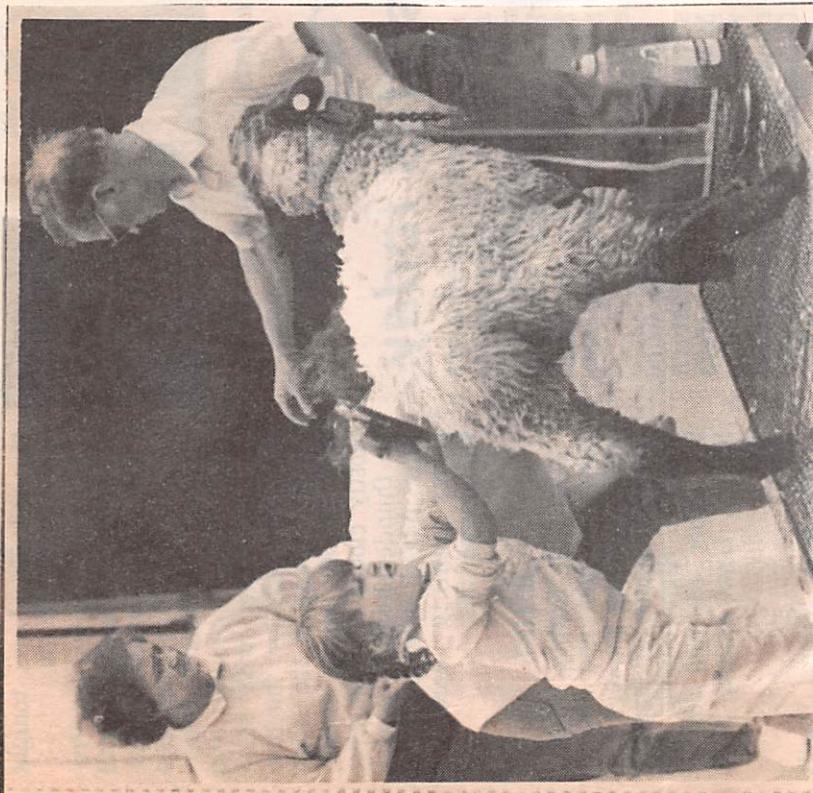
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Trent Nelson Photo

## Sheep cleaning

Fork Junior Livestock Show. Family members scrub down a sheep in preparation for competition at the Spanish

Activities at the show continue through Saturday.